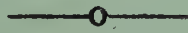


Rugeley Urban District Council



**Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health**

together with the Report of the

Sanitary Inspector



Year 1951

Rugeley Urban District Council

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

together with the Report of the

Sanitary Inspector

Year 1951

To The Rugeley Urban District Council . . .

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1951.

The Birth and Death rates compare favourably with the National rates, and while the Infantile Mortality rate and Still Birth rate are higher, this is of little significance in view of the numbers involved.

There were again no deaths from Poliomyelitis, Measles or Diphtheria.

Diphtheria immunisation has once again shown its value, no cases of Diphtheria having occurred in immunised children. The increased response is largely due to the excellent work of the Health Visitor for the District.

During the year 29 Council houses and 3 Private houses have been built and occupied.

I must thank the members of the Council and their Staff for their co-operation and courtesy.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health.—CHARLES FLEMING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Assistant County Medical Officer to the Staffordshire County Council, and Medical Officer of Health to the Tutbury Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector.—J. T. G. CRADDOCK, C.S.I.B., C.F.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the District	...	...	...	...	...	...	2882 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,472
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£36,592
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£142
Number of houses inhabited at the end of 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,448

VITAL STATISTICS

		Total		M.		F.	
		1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Live Births	...	132	144	72	83	60	61
Legitimate	...	128	142	71	83	57	59
Illegitimate	...	4	2	1	—	3	2

Live Births per 1,000 estimate population ... 15.58

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales ... 15.5

		Total		M.		F.	
		1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Stillbirths	...	4	6	4	4	—	2
Legitimate	...	4	6	—	4	—	2
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population ... 0.48

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales ... 0.36

		Total		M.		F.	
		1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Deaths	...	100	83	50	45	50	38

Death Rate per 1,000 population ... 11.8

Corrected for age and sex distribution ... 12.6

Death Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales 12.5

Deaths from Cancer ... 13

Deaths from Measles ... —

Deaths from Whooping Cough ... —

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... —

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... —

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(Under 1 year of age)

	Total		M.		F.	
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Deaths	7	5	6	4	1	1
Legitimate	6	5	5	4	1	1
Illegitimate	1	—	1	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)					1951	1950
England and Wales					53.02	34.7
					29.6	29.8

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks

					M.	F.
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	5	—
Legitimate ... ..	...	...	...	...	4	—
Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	—

Maternal Mortality

No deaths from Maternal cause were registered.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Immunisation has been carried out as before at the Infant Welfare Centre and among entrants to Infants Schools.

The records are now in charge of the Area Medical Officer and doubtless will be commented on in his Annual Report.

Primary Immunisations : Under 5—129; Over 5—17.

Reinforcing Doses : Under 5—1; Over 5—503.

Children under 14 immunised : 88.5% (approx.).

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1951

Disease	Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	39	17	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	52	Nil	Nil
Measles	16	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	8	Nil	4
Cerebo Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	Paralytic	Nil	Nil
	Non-Paralytic	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Weils Disease	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever " B "	1	1	Nil

Analysis of Infectious Diseases classified according to age

Age Groups	...	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over
Scarlet Fever	...	1	3	9	22	3		1
Whooping Cough	...	7	10	14	20			1
Measles	...	2	8	5	1			
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis								
Paralytic	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	...			1				
		Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64			65 and over
Acute Pneumonia	...		1	1	2			4
Paratyphoid								
Fever " B "	...	1						

RESEARCH ON POLIOMYELITIS

During the year an investigation was carried out for the Medical Research Council in connection with the isolation of virus from sewer swabs.

Thirty sewer points in the town through which sewage from representative classes of property would pass were chosen, covering the whole of the Urban District. A set of four swabs was lowered into the manhole selected and left in position for 72 hours, whence they were taken up, placed into glass jars and dispatched the same day to the Public Health Laboratory in Stafford.

This swabbing of sewer points was carried out twice, in April and July.

This method was used by the Medical Research Council in an effort to determine the distribution of virus in epidemic and non-epidemic periods in towns and villages in England and Wales during 1951. The results have since shown a negative result for this district.

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of 1951 there were 47 cases (1950—68) on register.

MALES		FEMALES	
Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
15 (25)	12 (16)	11 (15)	9 (12)

The revision of the register during the year led to the removal of 27 cases and six new cases were added, giving a nett decrease of 21 cases.

No deaths from T.B. occurred during the year.

DEATHS FROM CANCER for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1951

		Age Groups								
		Under 26	26- 35	36- 45	46- 55	56- 65	66- 75	75- 85	Over 85	Totals
Males	...	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
Females	...	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	—	7

HOUSING ACT 1936

The following 12 dwellings (in respect of which you have put on Demolition or Closing Orders, or accepted undertakings not to relet) are still in occupation:—

Owens, Brereton Fields, October, 1939	...	Demolition
Coughlan, Brereton Fields, October, 1939	...	„
1 Brook Square, 15th February, 1946	...	Closing Order
29 Horse Fair, June, 1946	...	Undertaking
29a Horse Fair, June, 1946	...	„
9 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	...	„
11 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	...	„
13 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	...	„
7 Brookside, 16th October, 1946	...	Demolition
3 Brook Square (Top Flat), 18th Dec., 1947	...	Undertaking
78 Sheep Fair, 30th March, 1951	...	„
The Bungalow, Fortescue Lane, 7th May, 1951	...	Demolition

In my opinion, in addition to these dwellings, at least another fifty dwelling-houses should be considered for Demolition immediately you are in a position to rehouse them.

UNFIT HOUSES

During the year eight houses were found to be so unfit as to be unsuitable for human habitation.

They were as follows:—

22 Sheep Fair	...	Owner has given an undertaking not to relet. Tenant re-housed. House now empty.
The Bungalow, Fortescue Lane	...	Demolition Order. Tenant being re-housed.
78 Sheep Fair	...	Still occupied. Owner has given an undertaking not to relet.
74, 76 and 80 Sheep Fair, 80 Queen Street; 25 Redbrook Lane	...	The owners of these houses gave undertakings not to relet when vacated until made fit to the Council's satisfaction. These five houses have since been made in all respects fit.

FACTORY ACT 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of			
	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	5	11	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938 ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Others ...	34	72	1	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	39	83	1	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	1	1
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	0	1	0

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES FLEMING,

Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males	Females
ALL CAUSES					50	50
1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—
2	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1
10	(Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	—
11	(Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	—	—
12	(Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	—
13	(Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
14	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	4	6
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	9	7
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	5	6
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	2	5
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	8	7
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	—
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	4
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	3
25	Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	4	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	3	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	7	5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	—
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—						
	Smallpox	...	...	...
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...
Deaths of (Total					6	1
Infants —(Legitimate					5	1
under 1 year (Illegitimate					1	—
Live Births (Total					72	60
—(Legitimate					71	57
(Illegitimate					1	3
Stillbirths (Total					4	—
—(Legitimate					4	—
(Illegitimate					—	—
Population					8,472	

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting my 21st Annual Report dealing with the work carried out in my department during 1951.

Closet Accommodation

The town area is mostly sewered, only eleven houses have not been converted to the water carriage system. There are cases in the district of closets having no flushing apparatus.

BRERETON SEWERAGE SCHEME

So far 169 properties out of the 342 have been connected to the new sewerage scheme.

The number of visits paid in connection with the giving of advice and the examination and testing of new drains was 90.

There is no sewer available in the Wolseley Road, Etching Hill, Slitting Mill and Hednesford Road areas, where the closet accommodation is as follows :—

Wolseley Road area.

39 premises with W.C.'s to Cesspools.

Etching Hill area.

93 premises with W.C.'s to Cesspools.

12 premises with pail closets.

2 premises with privy middens.

Slitting Mill area.

14 premises with W.C.'s to Cesspools.

25 premises with pail closets.

8 premises with privy middens.

Hednesford Road area.

43 Premises with W.C.'s to Cesspools.

3 premises with privy middens.

Swimming Baths

There are no private swimming baths or pools in the area.

Public Cleansing

(a) **Dry House Refuse.**—The whole of the refuse of the district is removed by the Council's workmen in two covered vehicles, once every week. The Council carry out Controlled Tipping at the new tip at the top of Springhill Terrace.

(b) **Contents of Pail Closets, Cesspools, etc.**—This is conveyed from the premises in a special trailer sludge tank. The pail closets are emptied at night once every week. 90 cesspools were emptied by the Council's workmen during the year, and the Mount Road tank was emptied 3 times.

Sanitary Improvements and Notices

Number of visits during the year, either in connection with Infectious Disease, or in course of investigating complaints, or in carrying out surveys amounted to 2,564.

Number of **Statutory Notices** complied with. 46 as follows:—

Public Health Act, 1936

Section 93.	Houses made fit or repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Section 44.	Insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	22
Section 45.	Defective closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	7
Section 7.	Factory Act 1937. Closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Section 138.	Water supply over sink	...	...	...	...	10

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Section 13.	Washable walls	...	...	...	...	—
„ 13.	Sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	—
„ 13.	Washing facilities	...	...	...	...	—
„ 13.	Reconstruction of premises	...	...	...	...	—
„ 13.	Redecoration of premises	...	...	...	...	—

Number of **Intimatory or Verbal Notices** complied with. 116 as follows:—

Dwelling Houses made fit or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	30
Obstructed drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drains amended in construction	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water-closet basins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water-closet cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	41
Closet structure repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply and flushing apparatus provided to water-closets without flush	...	...	...	...	...	1
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	0
Cesspools emptied or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burst water piping	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty Houses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Caravans causing nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	0

Food and Drugs Act 1938

Walls of premises made washable	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	3
Additional lighting provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
Additional ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
Provision of receptacles for refuse	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary conveniences repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	1

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by By-Laws or Regulations

The Council have By-Laws for Common Lodging Houses. There are no Common Lodging Houses in this District. There is a Tannery in the district. There are no underground sleeping places in the district. There are no By-Laws for:—Houses-let-in-Lodgings, tents, vans, sheds, etc., offensive trades, or Lodgings and accommodation for Hop-pickers

Schools

In Rugeley Town and Brereton the sanitary conveniences are on the water carriage system. The water supply to all the schools is received from the Council's mains.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

The conditions of this Act, which came into operation on the 1st November, 1951, were circulated to those within the district connected in any way with the upholstery trade.

There are, however, no premises in the district which are controllable by the Council under the Act, viz., Registered Premises, where filling materials are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys, upholstery, etc., or Licensed Premises, where rag flock is (a) manufactured or (b) stored for distribution to Registered Premises.

Housing

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses

Inspection— (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts		183
Number of inspections made for that purpose		638
(2) Number of Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925		127
Number of inspections made for that purpose		239
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as being unfit for human habitation ...		9
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation		100

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defected dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	5
--	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers

A.—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936, Sections 9 and 10.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served and requiring repairs	95
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a) By owners	90
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

c.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	0
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which the Council accepted undertakings from the owners not to let them for human habitation	8
(4)	Number of dwelling houses demolished. They were houses in respect of which owners had given undertakings not to relet ...	0

Improvements resulting from above Notices

Internal dampness. Remedied	44 cases
Defective eaves guttering and downpipings repaired or renewed	75 cases
Defective plastering made good and sound	90 cases
Roofing made weathertight	49 cases
Doors repaired and made weathertight	46 cases
Windows, provision of larger and remedying defective frames of existing	12 cases
Ranges repaired or renewed	74 cases
Staircases repaired and handrails provided	52 cases
External brickwork—repointing where necessary	33 cases
Drainage—repairs	6 cases
Floors (internal) repaired	11 cases
Chimneys (rebuilt or repointed)	49 cases
Chimneys—provision of new pots	5 cases
Copper—repair of brickwork and fire-boxes	61 cases
Sinks, waste pipes and sink gullies repaired or renewed ...	72 cases
Provision of new dustbins	2 cases
Downdraught of ranges—remedied	11 cases
	<hr/> 692 cases <hr/>

Inspection of Council Houses

During the year I inspected 21 Council houses in connection with reports of want of cleanliness.

As a result of my inspections an improvement was made at all the houses and decorations carried out at 8 of the premises.

Rodent Control

The work of dealing with infestations has been carried out throughout the year under my supervision.

In all 153 visits were made by the part-time Rodent Operative in carrying out investigations and treatments.

The baiting of sewers was again carried out and the degree of infestation was slightly more than the previous year.

Salvage of Waste

The collection and baling of waste paper for which there had been no outlet earlier in the year, was resumed in August and up to the end of December, 1951, 62 tons, 7cwt. of paper and 3 tons 13cwt. of scrap iron and rags was collected, baled and disposed of.

The baling is being carried out by a part-time baling operative at the Springhill tip.

CARAVANS

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269

There are ten caravans licensed under the above Act within the Urban District.

No nuisance has resulted from the caravans during the year.

The names of those holding licences and the site of each caravan are as follows:—

Mr. W. L. Creswell ...	...	Hagley Hall.
Mrs. N. E. Letch ...	...	Rear of "Wynberg," Armitage Road.
Mr. D. Upton ...	...	Upfields Farm, Etching Hill.
Mr. J. L. Harris ...	...	Palfreyman's Yard, Sheep Fair.
Mr. A. K. Creswell ...	...	" " " "
Mr. M. Dean ...	...	" " " "
Mr. D. Barber ...	...	" " " "
Mr. S. T. Caddick ...	...	Ravenhill Terrace, off Brereton Road.
Mr. J. L. Meehan ...	...	Eaton Lodge, Wolseley Road.
Mr. W. A. Blood ...	...	Rear of "Adelaide House, Armitage Road.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

- (a) **Milk Supply**—In the district we have registered two retail purveyors who are not cowkeepers. We have three other retail purveyors whose dairies are situated outside our district. The Staffordshire County Council carried out the sampling and examination of milk for Bacterial contents and for tubercle bacilli.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Dealers' licences granted under these Regulations authorising the use of a Special Designation are held by the following:—

Rugeley Co-operative Society	" Pasteurised Milk," " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised " and " Sterilised Milk."
Mr. R. Grimley, Colton ...	" Tuberculin Tested Milk " and " Pasteurised Milk."
Mrs. M. L. Carney, Rugeley	" Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)," " Pasteurised Milk " and " Sterilised Milk."
Mr. C. A. Pratt, Rugeley ...	" Pasteurised Milk " and " Tuberculin Tested Milk."

- (b) **Ice Cream**—In the district we have 13 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream and seven premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream. All the premises comply with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

(c) **Preserved and etc. food premises**—In the district we have eleven premises registered.

(d) **Meat and other foods**—

Number of visits to Slaughter Houses, Butchers' Shops, Grocery and Vegetable Shops, Fish Shops, Stalls, etc. ... 2114

Number of Statutory Notices complied with in connection with (a), (b), (c) and (d) ... 0

Number of Informal Notices complied with in connection with (a), (b), (c) and (d) ... 9

Other Foods

The following were found to be unfit for human consumption:—

38 tins Ham, 17 tins Peas, 20 tins Beans, 120 tins Tomatoes, 53 tins Milk, 75 tins Meat, 24 tins Fish, 2 boxes Fish, 2 jars Marmalade, 84 tins Fruit, 3 bottles Fruit, 41 tins Vegetables, 39 tins Soup, 7 tins Sponge Mixture Pudding, 12 tins Spaghetti, 1 tin Apple Sauce, 4 tins Coffee, 6 tins Jam, 1 jar Jam, 1 box Sausage, 24lb. Sausage, 1 sack Malt Flour, 7 packets Flour, 29 packets Gravy Powder, 2 packets Corn Flakes, 33 packets Cheese, 12lb. Cheese, 6 packets Gravy Salt, 1lb. Rice, 2lb. Sugar, 14lb. Luncheon Meat, 8 stones Fish, 28lb. Butter, 7½lb. Biscuits, 8½lb. Sliced Ham, 2 bottles Pickles, 5 jars Fish Paste, 51 Eggs, 2 tins Fruit Juice.

PARKER'S CASUALTY SLAUGHTER-HOUSE

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Horses	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number of killed ...	594	—	40	—	4	—
Number inspected ...	594	—	40	—	4	—
All disease except T.B.						
Whole carcases con- demned ...	2	—	8	—	4	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ...	58	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	10.1%	—	20%	—	100%	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned .	—	—	20	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with T.B. ...			50%			

(e) **Adulteration, etc.**—This is not an authority for enforcing the Acts and Regulations referred to under this head.

(f) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**—The Staffordshire County Council has provided laboratories and carry out such work.

Water Supply

The Council obtain their water in bulk from the South Staffordshire Water Company. This supply has been satisfactory (a) in quality, and (b) in quantity.

In addition to the samples we submit to the County Analyst and County Bacteriologist, the Water Works Company take frequent samples of the raw water for bacteriological and chemical examination (a) before treatment, (b) after treatment, and (c) from taps in our district.

The supply is a constant one, **and does not have a plumbo-solvent action.**

The only action in respect of any form of contamination taken during the year was to approach the new owner-occupier of the house at Bower Lane, Etching Hill, previously occupied by Mr. Clarke. He has now commenced the replacement of the well with the public supply.

The following are reports of samples of the Council's Public Water Supply:—

ANALYST'S REPORT—						Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212° F.	...	...	...	...	...	26.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0008
Albuminoid	...	...	...	...	...	0.0008
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.50
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	2.10
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0082
Appearance—Clear, extremely minute trace of suspended matter.						
Injurious Metallic contamination	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
pH Value	...	...	...	...	...	7.4
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	14.2°
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	6.2°
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	8.0°

REMARKS:—This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

BACTERIOLOGIST'S REPORT—

Probable number of coliform bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days, 37° C.:—
Nil per 100 m.l.

It is estimated that 2,446 dwelling houses occupied by 8,467 persons are supplied from the public mains. Of the remaining two houses, one condemned house at Brereton Fields is being supplied by Brereton Colliery water and the other house at Bower Lane is supplied by a contaminated well. Both these houses are to be supplied with the public supply. As far as the houses with the public supply are concerned, 2,426 dwelling houses occupied by 8,414 persons have the supply directly over the sinks. The remaining 20 houses occupied by 53 persons obtain the public supply from stand pipes in the yards. During the year 10 houses which obtained their supply from stand pipes have had the water supply put over the sinks.

HOUSING POINTS SCHEME

During 1950 I called on 247 applicants in consequence of the Council's Housing Points Scheme.

These visits were made to ascertain (1) Possible overcrowding; (2) Possible sexual overcrowding; (3) Condition of properties, and (4) The particulars necessary for ascertaining the remaining points to be allotted.

The following conditions were recorded by me on the special housing enquiry form which I had formulated :—

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	145 cases
Sexual overcrowding	...	...	...	...	23 cases
Properties in an unfit state	...	...	...	...	34 cases

The scale adopted for the assessment of points for general overcrowding and sexual overcrowding was that laid down in the Housing Act, 1936, with the following modifications:—

1. In calculating sex overcrowding it was assumed that the accommodation was sexually overcrowded if the man and wife were compelled to separate for sleeping purposes to prevent adults of opposite sexes from sleeping in the same room.
2. Under the Housing Act, living rooms are counted as well as bedrooms, but under this scheme the first living room was ignored.
3. Under the Housing Act, a house shall be deemed to be overcrowded if “ **any two persons**, being of 10 years old or more of opposite sexes, and not being persons living together as man and wife must sleep in the same room.” It will be seen that this applies to cases where **two persons** are over ten years. Points were therefore given under paragraph 7 to cover cases where there is one person over ten and another person of the opposite sex under ten years of age sleeping in the same room.
4. Points were also given under paragraph 7 for overcrowding caused by the presence of the applicant's family **although not themselves overcrowded**.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. G. CRADDOCK

